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University of Missouri-St. Louis

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The Current

September 5,
2006

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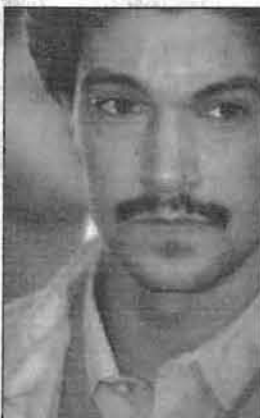
INSIDE



First home game gives Rivermen third straight win

The men's soccer team defeated Quincy University 2-0 with goals by Colin Huber and Jared Smith. The Rivermen didn't fare so well, losing 2-0 to Quincy, but they came back on Sunday to win over Saginaw Valley State.

See page 8



'Path to 9/11' dramatizes commission's findings

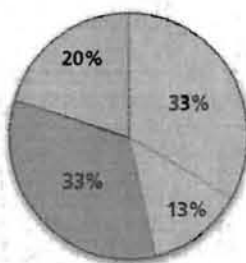
ABC's two-part miniseries on the fifth anniversary of the World Trade Center attacks will take a look back at the "Path to 9/11" Sunday, Sept. 10 and Monday, Sept. 11, at 7 p.m.

See page 6

ON THE WEB

The Current

Web poll results:
What did you think of parking on campus during the first week?



- Surprisingly, not too bad.
- It made me want to cry.
- I don't park on campus, so I can just walk on by.
- School started already?

This week's question:
How will the men's and women's soccer team fare this season?

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UMSL to receive \$27.5 million from MOHELA sale

BY BEN SWOFFORD

Staff Writer

Missouri Governor Matt Blunt has resurrected a stalled plan to sell \$450 million of debt held by the Missouri Higher Education Loan Authority.

The original plan, called the Lewis and Clark Discovery Initiative, was unveiled in January 2006. The sell off would provide money for infrastructure improvements on Missouri campuses as well as fund emerging technologies programs.

"It will affect UMSL in a positive

way. UMSL is going to realize building improvements because of the sale," said Anthony Georges, director of Student Financial Aid at UM-St. Louis. "It will benefit the campus community."

Blunt released the revised plan on Aug. 27, saying government agencies and state legislators had reached a consensus on the best way to proceed.



Gov. Blunt

The original plan fell through in May because state legislators could not decide how to distribute the funds.

The plan has changed little since its original incarnation; instead it is the plan of implementation that is different. MOHELA benefits from the sale by receiving funding from the Department of Economic Development, and the plan gets to move ahead with a sale to the Missouri Development Finance Board, without legislative approval.

In Blunt's proposed Cooperation Agreement plan, MOHELA's assets would be sold to the MDFB and in

exchange, MOHELA would receive \$1.1 billion in tax-exempt bonds from the Federal Department of Economic Development of the State of Missouri.

The MDFB will then distribute the money. However, the Cooperation Agreement is still in draft form and has not been fully agreed upon. The Gilmore and Bell law firm of Kansas City, Mo. prepared the Cooperation Agreement. Gilmore and Bell "determined" the agreement was "authorized under Missouri Law."

See **MOHELA**, page 10

MOHELA by the numbers

Of the \$450 million MOHELA sale...

- \$313.9 million will be divided among 22 construction projects at state colleges and universities with \$27.5 million to UMSL.

- UMSL's portion will fund its planned IT incubator and science labs.

SEVEN GRADUATES FROM VASHON HIGH SCHOOL CHOOSE UMSL AFTER GETTING A

JUMP-START TO COLLEGE

STORY BY PAUL HACKBARTH • DESIGN EDITOR

Adrian Walker started classes Aug. 21 as a freshman, but unlike most freshmen, this is neither his first time on campus nor his first time being taught by a University professor.

Walker is one of seven students from Vashon High School admitted to UM-St. Louis this semester, with possibly more coming in January 2007.

Walker was one of 65 seniors from Vashon who participated in a teaching partnership between Vashon and UM-St. Louis last spring. The partnership was a jump start for students in hopes of increasing high school graduation and college enrollment rates from Vashon.

Bringing high school seniors to campus also alleviated the stress of crowded classrooms at Vashon.

The 65 high school seniors were taught at Vashon each morning. In the afternoon, they were bused to UM-St. Louis four days a week to take sociology and anthropology classes taught by University professors.

"I guess I was chosen because of my grades and the potential I had. It had to be because of that," Walker said. His grade point average of 3.6 earned him an early trip to college.

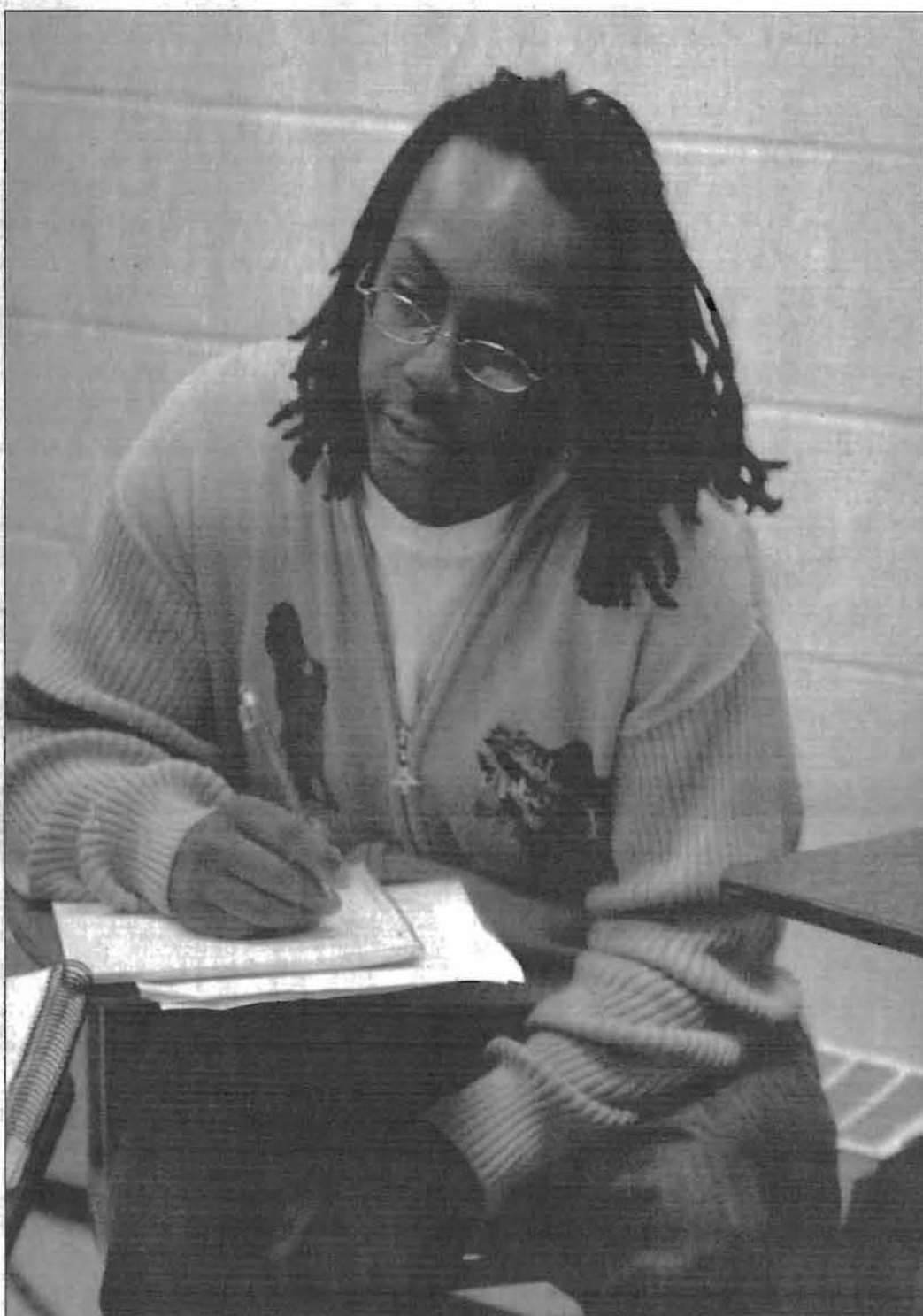
Being taught at UM-St. Louis during the spring semester made him feel like a college student.

"Everyone asks me how my first day went, and it doesn't feel like my first day. It feels like I'm a sophomore," Walker said.

Walker's familiarity with the campus and his academic counselor, Carl Williams, student development coordinator at the Center for Student Success, made the transition from high school senior to college freshman easy.

Williams helps the students from Vashon get in touch with campus resources and "just to make sure they're successful in their semester here," he said.

See **VASHON STUDENTS**, page 12



Matt Johnson • Photo Editor

Adrian Walker, freshman, undecided, works on an assignment in his freshman English composition class. Walker is one of seven students from Vashon High School who enrolled at UM-St. Louis this fall after taking classes on campus last spring.

Assembly elects exec committee at first SGA meeting

BY JASON GRANGER

Staff Writer

Members of the Student Government Association met and elected new members of the Executive Committee Friday.

Kelcy Siddall, senior, economics, was elected SGA chair by an overwhelming margin over Adam Richter, president of the Residence Hall Association.

"I want to help make a difference on campus," Siddall said. "I felt this was the best place to continue my efforts in making a difference."

Siddall, who also is a member of the Associated Black Collegians and the Student Senate Organization, among other student organizations, said his priority is to make sure SGA meetings move smoothly.

He said his goals include "just making sure meetings are run accurately. I just want to make sure everyone has their say."

Michele Landeau, senior, history, was elected SGA vice-chair, and has already begun making plans for the organization's future.

"I want to make the organization more widely known to the campus," she said. In the past, "I really got into SGA and enjoyed it."

Siddall and Landeau have seen each other work in the past on the Student Activities Budget Committee, so they are well aware of the other responds to pressure and responsibility. "We've



Kelcy Siddall

"I felt this was the best place to continue my efforts in making a difference."

Siddall on being elected SGA chair

already worked together," Landeau said. "We get along well. We just mesh really well."

Both Siddall and Landeau were thankful for the chance to show their leadership to not just SGA, but UM-St. Louis as a whole.

"I would like to thank the assembly for the vote," Siddall said. "I will continue to serve the assembly and the campus to the best of my abilities."

Landeau added: "I look forward to serving the campus community."

SGA President Nick Koechig said he believes the new chair and vice chair will help unify the campus. "They are new people and bring different perspectives," Koechig said. "I think they will help in getting this largely diverse and largely commuter campus involved in events."

Other positions filled include William Smith, who was the only nominee, as parliamentarian; Cadence Rippetto, who was one of four candidates, as sergeant-at-arms; and Katie Moore as secretary.



Carrie Fasiska • Staff Photographer

Brian Rails, president of PRIZM, votes in the elections at the first SGA meeting of the year last Friday in the SGA chambers.

The assembly also named William Smith as SGA member at large; he was elected by voice acclamation.

Thomas Helton, SGA vice president, outlined the rules and regulations for a member at large.

"Our constitution provides for one student to be made part of the SGA if not a member of an organization," he said.

According to Helton, the constitution allows for one member at large for every 250 students enrolled at UM-St. Louis. "Hopefully we'll have a few

more this year," he said.

SGA also announced that this year the school will host the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life. The program is a fundraiser that takes place overnight, according to the American Cancer Society's Website, www.cancer.org.

It is designed, according to the Website, to "celebrate survivorship and raise money" for cancer research. Survivors of cancer, including Koechig, as well as those battling the disease, will be honored at the event.

MSC has fewer security problems this year

BY MELISSA S. HAYDEN

News Editor

A door to the Millennium Student Center was found propped open with an umbrella bag stand after the building had been closed Saturday, Aug. 26. Could this lead to security concerns in the MSC?

"This year's been pretty good. As far as our building is concerned, it's been running pretty smoothly lately," said Shawn Roby, student night manager for Building Operations of the MSC.

"I've heard occasionally when we have late events, especially now with fraternities

and sororities, they'll be bringing in a lot of stuff with them. So they'll have things that they're moving in and out so they'll prop the door open occasionally," he said.

"It's on us to catch that and make sure the building is secure at night," he added.

According to him, MSC workers typically do not prop open the door.

"Maybe during the day if we're running an event outside or something we'll prop the door open," he said. "For the most part our staff is really conscious of making sure the building is secure at night."

He said the MSC is "kind of" a separate entity from the rest of the campus.

"We have a lot more security concerns with the building because of student information like financial aid and registration," he said.

Roby said people who are not students from the MetroLink station, located in the parking lot near the MSC, will come in the building throughout the day.

"Recently, we haven't had much in regard to people milling around the building, but in the past we've had people," he said.

He said the people seen in the MSC on a regular basis as he or the other night managers are locking up know what time the building is closed.

"I've seen people that would try and hide from me and I'd have to try and track them down," Roby said. "For the most part once you've identified somebody and asked them to head out then usually you don't have any problem."

He said people occasionally try to spend the night in the MSC. "We've got to be aware and keep an eye out and try and find people that might have fallen asleep or are looking to spend the night."

See **MSC SECURITY**, page 10

CAMPUS CRIMELINE

SATURDAY, AUG. 26

BURGLARY - 2ND DEGREE • 4230 WALKER LANE

The victim reported a washer and dryer stolen from her residence while she was in the process of moving out. The appliances actually belong to the University.

TUESDAY, AUG. 29

STEALING UNDER \$500 • 313 MSC

The victim reported that sometime during the day her cell phone was lost/stolen while she was in the Millennium Student Center.

SICK CASE / DRUG VIOLATIONS • UNIVERSITY MEADOWS

The UM-St. Louis Police Department was called to the University Meadows for a sick case where the victim took a "hit" of marijuana and became suddenly very ill and vomited.

After speaking with the victim for a while, he finally admitted to smoking marijuana in his roommate's apartment. The roommate was interviewed and admitted to smoking marijuana, and subsequently gave the officers a bag of marijuana and a "bong" that they had smoked from.

The roommate was placed under arrest, and a search of his room revealed many items of evidence to support drug activity including other drugs, and numerous items of paraphernalia.

The victim was transported to DePaul Hospital for treatment of a possible overdose, and the other roommate/suspect was transported to the police station.

The suspect was booked on charges of possession of marijuana, possession of marijuana paraphernalia and distribution of drugs. The investigation is still ongoing, and other possible suspects could be identified and arrested at a later date.

The case will be referred to the St. Louis County Prosecuting Attorney's Office where warrants will be sought for drug violations. The evidence will be sent to the lab for analysis. This information will also be sent to Student Affairs for disciplinary action against all involved.

THURSDAY, AUG. 31

DAMAGE / ATTEMPTED STEALING MOTOR VEHICLE • MSC NORTH GARAGE

While on patrol in the Millennium North Student Garage at about 6:15 p.m., Sgt. Tom McEwen with the UM-St. Louis Police Department discovered two vehicles that had been damaged.

One of the vehicles had a left rear vent window broke out and the ignition was tampered with. The other vehicle had an exterior piece of trim near the driver's side door peeled away, and the door window was forced out from the track.

Both vehicles were processed for evidence and numerous fingerprints were lifted from one of them. The fingerprints will be sent to the St. Louis County Crime Lab for comparison and identification.

Remember that crime prevention is a community effort, and anyone having information concerning these or any other incidents should contact the campus police at 516-5155.

CORRECTIONS

In the Aug. 28 issue of *The Current*, the following corrections need to be made:

• In the "Letters to the editor" section, two letters were cut short due to an error in production.

1) In Susie Sippel's letter regarding a story over the summer about fraternity and sorority houses, the final paragraph was omitted. It reads:

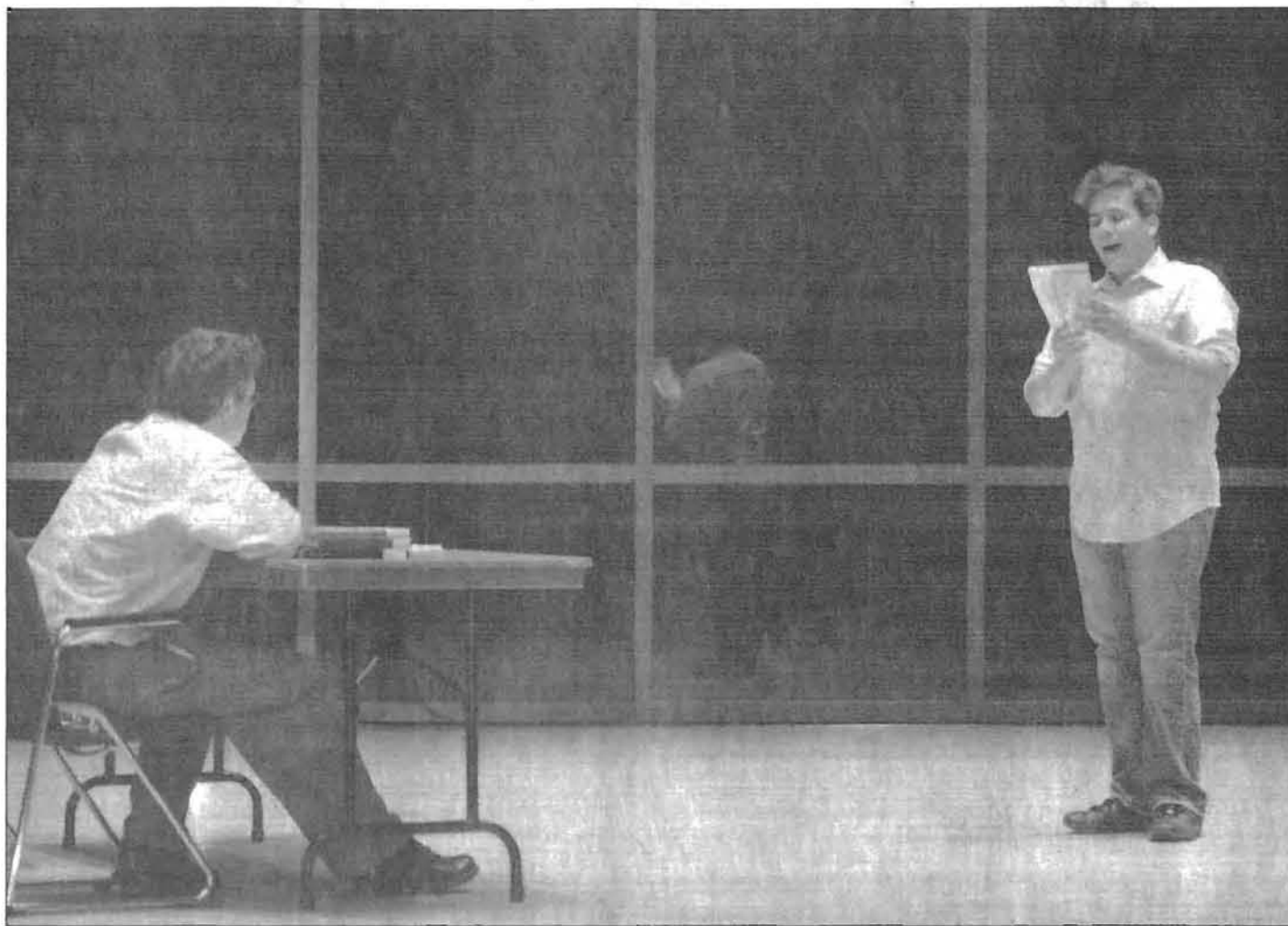
"While it is true that the University of Missouri - St. Louis is a dry campus, Alpha Xi Delta National Fraternity and its National Housing Corporation have strict guidelines where alcohol is concerned. The storage and consumption of alcohol on corporation property are prohibited by the Alpha Xi Delta Constitution and Bylaws.

Thank you for your time and allowing me to address a few items that I felt were an important part of your highlight of Greek Housing!"

2) In Jen Noel's letter about service-oriented events by fraternities and sororities, the final sentence was cut short. It reads: "We are always looking for new brothers to join us, and welcome everyone to participate in any of our service events; brothers or not."

Both letters can be read in their entirety on www.thecurrentonline.com.

READING BETWEEN THE LINES



Carrie Fasiska • Staff Photographer

Director Rob Grumich watches Matt Steine, Jr., theater, as he auditions for a part in the play 'The Imaginary Invalid,' by Molière. Auditions were held last Tuesday and Wednesday at the Touhill.

What's Current

Your weekly calendar of campus events

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

Volleyball and Ice Cream Social

The Catholic Newman Center is hosting volleyball in the yard next to its house located at 8200 Natural Bridge Road. An ice cream bar will also be offered. The event begins at 7 p.m. Call (314) 385-3455 for more information.

Campus Rec Wellness Classes

Campus Recreation's fall aerobics classes begin Tuesday, Sept. 5 and run through Dec. 16.

The classes will be held in the Mark Twain Athletic and Fitness center. Classes are free Tuesday, Sept. 5 through Sept. 9. After that, each session is \$25 for students, \$35 for faculty and staff and \$45 for general admission.

Registration is available at 203 Mark Twain. Call 5326 for more information.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

Student Information Session

Transfer Services at UM-St. Louis will sponsor a student information event called "Getting Involved at UMSL," from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. in room 133 Social Sciences Building.

Students can learn about different organizations on campus and how to get involved. For more information, call 5162.

Women's Soccer vs. SIUE

The Riverwomen soccer team will face local rival SIUE-Edwardsville at 7 p.m. at the Don Dallas Soccer Field located behind the Mark Twain gymnasium.

UM-St. Louis students get in free with an ID. Call 5660 for more information.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

Beginning Italian Class

Beginning Conversational Italian, a non-credit course, will be offered 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. every Thursday, beginning Sept. 7 and running through Oct. 26. The classes will be held in the J.C. Penney Conference Center.

Besides introducing essential vocabulary and cultural issues, this course provides opportunities to practice Italian conversation in many contexts.

The fee for the course is \$65. For more information, call 5974.

Student Information Session

Transfer Services at UM-St. Louis will sponsor a student information event called "Getting Involved at UMSL," from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. in room 133 Social Sciences Building.

Students can learn about different organizations on campus and how to get involved. For more information, call 5162.

"What's Current" is a free service for all student organizations and campus departments. Deadline for submissions is 5 p.m. the Thursday before publication. Space consideration is given to student organizations and is on a first-come, first-served basis. We suggest all postings be submitted at least one week prior to the event. Email event listings to thecurrent@umsl.edu. All listings use 516 prefixes unless otherwise indicated.



File Photo: Mike Sherwin • Managing Editor

State Rep. Scott Muschany will visit the campus Thursday, Sept. 7 as part of the College Republicans meeting at 3:30 p.m. in Room 316 of the MSC.

Artists to Hold Discussion on 'Nature of Landscape'

Five artists will discuss "The Nature of Landscape: An Artists' Panel Discussion" at 6 p.m. at the St. Louis Mercantile Library. Panelists include Martyl, Aimee Schweig, James Godwin Scott, R. H. Dick, Bryan Haynes and Joan Parker.

Call 7242 for more information or reservations.

Rep. Muschany to Visit Campus

State Rep. Scott Muschany will be on campus for the UM-St. Louis College Republicans meeting. The meeting will be held in Room 316 of the Millennium Student Center at 3:30 p.m.

Study Abroad Session

The Center for International Studies will hold a study abroad information session at 3 p.m. in the lounge outside of the Student Success Center, 225 Millennium Student Center. Students can learn about the types of programs available, scholarships and financial aid available and earning academic credit, as well as how to apply for study abroad programs. Call 5229 for more information.

Staff Management Course

Staff Management Issues in Nonprofit Organizations will be offered from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sept. 7 and Sept. 8 in 222 J.C. Penney Conference Center.

The noncredit fee for the course is \$180. Call 6713 for more information.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

PALs Tutor Program Meeting

Peer Academic Leaders (PALs) will hold two program designed to acquaint students working with students as tutors.

The first program will be held from 1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. in MSC Century Room C.

The program will introduce potential peer tutors, peer advisers, student assistants, lab assistants and supplemental instruction leaders to campus policies and instructional strategies.

The second program will be held Thursday, Oct. 5 from 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in Century Room C of the MSC.

Homecoming Committee Meeting

The Homecoming Committee will hold an information to prepare for the fall homecoming. The committee is looking for members to join and help out. The first meeting will take place Friday, Sept. 8 in the Pilot House. Future meetings will be held every Friday at 10 a.m. also in the Pilot House.

Catholic Mass

The Catholic Newman Center will hold a Friday afternoon mass from 12:05 p.m. to 1 p.m. at the Center located at 8200 Natural Bridge Road across from Benton/Stadler Halls. Call (314) 385-3455 for more information.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

Guaranteed 4.0 Seminar

The Guaranteed 4.0 Seminar and Workshop will be held from 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. in 118 Social Sciences & Business Building. Call 6807 for more information.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

Men's Soccer vs. Truman State

The Rivermen soccer team will face off against Truman State at a home game on campus at noon on the soccer field behind Mark Twain gymnasium. UM-St. Louis students get in free with an ID. Check out www.umsl-sports.com for more information or call 5660.

The Current

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Student Newspaper Since 1966

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ON THE WEB

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Editor-in-chief reserves the right to respond to letters. *The Current* reserves the right to deny letters.

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AFFILIATIONS



Assessment team looks to reaccredit campus police

BY PAUL HACKBARTH

Design Editor

An assessment team wants to recommend reaccrediting the UM-St. Louis police, after visiting the campus last week to interview police personnel, ride along with officers, and verify that the police were following 446 standards.

Many students on campus may think the UM-St. Louis police officers are nothing more than security guards.

However, every three years, the campus police are scrutinized to see if they will continue to serve the campus community as an accredited organization. That time has come again.

Police Capt. Howard Niemeier, of

the Newport, Ky. Police Department and team leader for the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc., led assessment between Sunday, Aug. 27 and Wednesday, Aug. 30.

During that time, the assessment team interviewed employees at the police station, rode along with officers and made assessments regarding the operations and management of the police department.

"When the agency originally entered the process, it received a commissions standards manual which contains 446 standards encompassing all facets of law enforcement," Niemeier said.

Lt. Al Wirt of the UM-St. Louis police oversaw the accreditation. "What they did is went through every file to make sure there is a

written directive for what we do and proof that we do it," he said.

For each standard, a Missouri state statute exists that, for example, allows police officers to carry weapons, Wirt said.

Niemeier said the accreditation is done to make sure the police have maintained the standards set in place and verified that they have remained in compliance with the standards.

"The commission tells us what standards to attain, and how we attain them is up to the chief of police," Wirt said.

Last Monday, the commission held a public hearing for the campus community to share their experiences and opinions of the police.

Reinhard Schuster, vice chancellor of Administrative Services, was one of three attendants at the hearing.

"It's hard to be a police officer," Schuster said, "but they've done more with involving police officers and teaching the rest that it's not always black and white. The campus police do especially well in the gray areas."

Schuster cited their increased role in helping in crisis intervention and the new police substation established in September 2004 on South Campus as examples of the police officers' excellence.

"They walk the floors, and students know them by first name," Schuster said.

Another attendee, Harry Harris, student development coordinator for the Center for Student Success, questioned how police report crimes to students, faculty and staff.

"I was not aware there were 400-

plus standards out there, but when incidents do occur, is there a standard for that?" he asked.

Harris named the carjacking incident that occurred on the afternoon of Dec. 7 as an example of not being informed in a timely manner.

"When I talked to other employees, nobody seemed to know about that at that time. I was concerned on what were being informed in a timely matter about," Harris said.

"If things are taken, even if something is taken from an unlocked office, or there is a fight or an assault or car theft, I would like to know about that rather quickly," he said.

Wirt said standards do exist for reporting crime on campus.

See **POLICE**, page 12

Student Life unveils new resource centers

BY JULIE STRASSMAN

Staff Writer

The quest for gender equality is gaining ground at UM-St. Louis, in a very literal way.

The Office of Student Life, in conjunction with PRIZM, recently opened three new student centers to promote gender awareness.

During an opening reception on Tuesday evening, Student Life unveiled the men's center, women's center and gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender (GLBT) center, which are located on the third floor of the Millennium Student Center.

Organizers hope the resource centers will give the campus community a place in which to explore and appreciate gender relations in a safe and supportive environment.

With this goal in mind, each of the centers features gender-oriented books, magazines and brochures, from the popular feminist periodical "Bust" to flyers entitled, "Ten Things Men Can Do To Prevent

Gender Violence."

While the Institute for Women's and Gender Studies and other campus organizations offer similar resources, the men's, women's and GLBT centers focus on the unique aspects and concerns of each group.

"We didn't want to discriminate against any gender. We felt that each type of gender diversity should be represented," said Courtney Haberer, vice president of PRIZM.

"A woman who is enduring abuse, or a man trying to find his role, or a gay person coming out; here they can have a private time and a private place," she said.

For students facing such difficult situations, the centers offer protected surroundings, a supportive staff and information on personal counseling, in a comfortable environment.

"When you look at any large cosmopolitan campus in the year 2006, there are certain expectations of what education means," said Michael Rankins, GLBT Diversity Coordinator.



Nick Bishop, sophomore, psychology and Spanish, and Jackie McGarry, sophomore, English, check out the new GLBT resource center in the Student Life office during an opening reception Tuesday.

"We want to give the opportunity to any person on campus to be enriched," he said.

Haberer also hopes that the centers will become popular spots to gather for enlightening conversation

and encourages students to stop by for "brown bag" lunchtime discussions to promote gender awareness on campus.

"I'd like to dream that it will become a more cohesive, sensitive

community," she said.

The centers located in the Student Life Office in 366 MSC are open from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Fridays.

NEWS BRIEF

SGA hopes black boxes ease confusion for reps

The Student Government Association began its new Black Box program last Friday at the SGA meeting.

Representatives to the SGA assembly from student groups in attendance were given a black, three-ring binder containing information to bring with them to a meeting and share with others in their organizations.

SGA Vice President and Inter-campus Student Council Chair Thomas Helton said the binders, which are being called "black boxes" because he thought it would be

"something fun to have a name for it", contain a copy of the SGA Constitution, a copy of the SGA voting policy, a list of meeting dates and a copy of every Student Life form.

"People can also put agendas and other handouts they get at the meetings in it," Helton said.

He said the program is going to be helpful because "reps were always losing documents" and the groups will often change representatives to the assembly.

"When organizations would send a different rep, they'd be confused and they couldn't participate to their capacity," he said.

He said he hopes it will make the assembly "more cohesive and knowledgeable."

Helton said he is "probably going to bring it up at ISC" as a program that can be implemented throughout the entire University of Missouri system "to enhance and heighten the communication between the campuses."

He said he thought of the idea of black boxes before he even ran for SGA Vice President last semester.

"My inspiration for it was my girlfriend [Abby Alby, a UM-Rolla student] because she's a part of her student council in Rolla," he said. "We thought of it together."



Helton

SGA Vice President

Last time I checked it wasn't a crime to have knowledge.

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In studies at WU (Neuro-Imaging Center) you will be asked to look at patterns on a computer screen during a functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI) brain scan. Study sessions last 2 hours and 6-8 hours are needed to complete the study. You will be paid \$25.00 per hour of participation.

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Dr. Erwin Wong (Principal Investigator) at 314-516-6516 or wong@umsl.edu

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WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

As a forum for public expression on campus, *The Current* welcomes letters to the editor and guest commentaries from students, faculty, staff members and others concerned with issues relevant to the University of Missouri-St. Louis.

Letters to the editor should be brief, and those not exceeding 200 words will be given preference. We edit letters for clarity and length, not for dialect, correctness, intent or grammar. All letters must include a daytime phone number. Students must include their student ID numbers. Faculty and staff must include their title(s) and department(s). Editor-in-chief reserves the right to respond to letters. *The Current* reserves the right to deny letters.

Guest commentaries are typically longer (generally 400-600 words) on a specific topic of interest to readers. If you are interested in writing a guest commentary, please contact *The Current's* editor-in-chief.

CONTACT US

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OUR OPINION



Everyone can pitch in to prevent campus crime

You may have noticed that last week's Campus Crimeline was empty. The UM-St. Louis Police Department had no new reported crimes last week. We have an internationally accredited Police Department right here on campus and at least two uniformed officers are on duty at all times. UM-St. Louis also has a relatively low crime rate when compared to other St. Louis area college campuses of a similar size. So, we're attending classes at a pretty safe campus, right?

The answer to that is yes. However, it is up to every one of us to ensure that it stays that way.

Every person in the entire UM-St. Louis community has an obligation to protect not only ourselves, but each other and our campus.

If you have swipe card access to the Millennium Student Center after it's normal hours of operation, make sure

the doors close behind you when you enter or exit.

If you're taking things in and out of a building and you want to prop open the door, make sure you're in eyesight of the door and when you're through make sure the door is shut.

If someone tries to enter and you're not sure if they should be there, call campus police and let them be the judge.

If you're down in The Nosh with a pile of books, your cell phone and a variety of your other personal belongings, but you have a sudden craving for some more fries or you have to go to the restroom. Before you just get up and leave your things behind, ask a friend to watch your stuff or take it all with you.

I know this could be a pain, but you're just making yourself easy prey for anyone who wants to steal from you.

By that same scenario, if you see

someone get up and leave their things around and you see someone else digging into it or even taking things, let the person know what happened while they were gone. If you are suspicious about the incident, know that you can call Campus Police at 516-5155 or if it is an emergency, call 911.

It could just be a friend of theirs borrowing a pen or a couple dollars, but that may just as easily not be the case and you may have just witnessed a theft.

Wouldn't you rather say something and find out instead of keeping it to yourself?

There are not many people who would not want to know or would not appreciate knowing someone else was looking out for them.

We do have a great Campus Police Department, but they can't do it all alone and everyone on campus can do their part to help.

STAFF VIEWPOINT

Could a lack of steroids explain the Cardinals' sluggish season?



BY STEVEN ADAMS
Columnist

I went to a Cardinals baseball game this past Wednesday night and it was one of the few this season in which they actually pulled out a victory. Despite a gorgeous night, quality time with my family and an overall good experience, I couldn't shake the feeling that I wasn't enjoying myself.

Like most, I'm a major Cards fan, and I have been ever since I can remember, which dates back to when Ozzie did backflips. My office at home is covered in every Cardinal trinket under the sun, and I've spent my fair share of time at the shrine we have in the MSC.

So why wasn't that game fun? Was it that most of the team that was on the field wasn't there the year before? Was it a bad hot dog?

I don't think so. I couldn't help but wonder if any Cardinals have been on steroids.

This is supposed to be the year that steroids are out of baseball. The major leagues, which many claim turned a blind eye to drug abuse, is now testing for illegal substances. It would stand to reason that those players who have stopped doing steroids now would have a significant downturn in their perform-

ance.

I read the book *Game of Shadows* this summer, in which two San Francisco reporters chronicled how high-profile athletes, from Olympic runners to baseball players, allegedly used untraceable, illegal substances with the help of some rogue labs and a man by the name of Victor Conte. The book, which relies on leaked testimony from a grand jury in the case against Barry Bonds, has been under a lot of scrutiny, and it's a compelling read.

There are few players who have actually confessed to using steroids, including Jose Canseco. One has even

got caught: Rafeal Palmeiro. Mark McGwire has testified that he will not "talk about the past," which isn't an answer one way or the other. It's obvious that steroids have been used in baseball, but we will never know who's guilty, mostly because those that may have been involved aren't telling.

According to *Game of Shadows*, one of the major benefits of steroids is that players are able to recover faster from the rigors of working out, which in turns allows them to build muscle much quicker. If a player can't recover as fast as he used to because there is no artificial help, then he should not be as good, right?

There is no doubt that the Cardinals are not as good as they have been in the past few years. So fans are left to wonder, since there seems to be a general lack of honesty.

Has age finally caught up with some of these guys? Is it that key players aren't here anymore? Does the new ballpark change the dynamic of the team?

Or is it that some players cheated, and now they can't cheat anymore? We'll probably never know the truth.

EDITOR'S VIEWPOINT

Welcome to the United States of Fear



BY ADAM WISEMAN
Editor-in-chief

Walking down the long corridor at LAX international airport I have time to think back about my Labor Day weekend. Watching football, cooking great food, lying on the beach in Malibu, and spending much-needed time with friends.

"Attention all passengers, because of heightened security there will be no liquids, gels or aerosols allowed on board the aircrafts. Please dispose of these items before entering the security checkpoint. Thank you for your cooperation."

As this same announcement is made in Spanish, my vacation thoughts quickly turn to thoughts of terrorism and heightened security.

I find myself in a line of other tense travelers. I take my shoes off and load up my personal belongings to be scanned. I watch as people have their bags searched and their toothpaste and contact eye solution thrown away. I start to daydream about some guy smuggling a Gatorade bottle of explosive liquid past and I look around to see if the TSA is doing their job. I am nervous and I am tempted to not get on the plane.

I have successfully been thrown into the cycle of fear. This is one thing that our current political administration knows how to do well. Since the attacks of 9/11, the amount of fear that is injected into Americans every day has been on the rise.

From the Bird Flu and West Nile to the shoe bomber and now the terrorists that were allegedly going to use some sort of liquid to make a bomb on board a plane, the security alert keeps being "heightened."

Fear is not productive; it is counter-

productive. In fact, it is a powerful tool used by my government to get my mind off what really matters.

Fear is distraction. A distraction from the things that truly need my attention. Health care, the economy, the war in Iraq, education, the mid-term elections, the victims of Katrina, immigration, gay marriage, taxes.

The Bush administration continues to play the only card it has: the trump card, fear. They want to scare me into making hasty decisions. Such as voting for the people they have on their payroll. They want to keep me scared so that when almost 3,000 soldiers are dead I accept it.

If I am to be afraid of anything it will be this government that tightens its grip with fear at every opportunity.

This is the government that said they were helping the Katrina victims. The one that said the war was over.

Why do I believe their lies about fear?

As I board my airplane to go home, I flush my mind of the propaganda that I have been exposed to. I sit down in my seat, lean my head back and close my eyes.

I say to myself "I refuse to be afraid."

I refuse to be afraid that someone on my plane has a bomb.

I refuse to be afraid that Al Qaeda wants to destroy the 'civilized world.'

I refuse to be afraid of the Middle-Eastern man that was behind me in line to board.

I refuse to be afraid to do things that I want to do.

I refuse to be afraid of losing my first amendment rights.

STAFF VIEWPOINT

Coming back to St. Louis reveals the city in new light



BY MARK MCHUGH
Staff Writer

"We must not cease from exploration and the end of all our exploring will be to arrive where we began and know the place for the first time."
- T.S. Eliot

A couple weeks back I was running some errands, buying odds-and-ends to help assemble my new apartment. Things on the list: can opener, saucepan, mouthwash, extension cord, bleach, recordable compact discs, notebooks for my first semester at UM-St. Louis.

I drove to The Hill, a neighborhood about four minutes from my place in Dogtown. I had various stores before me all on a triangular wedge of streets somewhere around Columbia and Southwest avenues: Family Dollar, an adjacent grocery store with a similar, yet vague name, and Hanneke Hardware.

Hanneke struck me as the place to get my electric cord. Sure, it might cost anywhere from 20 to 80 cents more than Family Dollar, but I wanted to give

3 dollars back to my hometown. Think Global, but buy Local. Hanneke it was.

No line, a great selection of Carr-Hart clothing, the place was packed full of wares, but efficient at the same time. The clerk attended me immediately with a disarming smile. As was predicted, a 6-foot cord cost around \$3. Preparing to pay the bill, I remembered I still had three unmailed documents tucked under my left arm.

I asked, "Do you know where the nearest Post Office is, please?" Another smile beamed back at me. "Say, Pat did you say you were going to the Post Office this afternoon?" Pat came forward. "Yes," Pat said. "Would you mind taking the mail to the office for this young man?"

I was numb as I handed over my Visa monthly bill and two other documents to this stranger.

See **COMING BACK**, page 5

UNDERCURRENT

By Matt Johnson • Staff Photographer

What's your dream job?



Tom Sauer
Freshman, Psychology



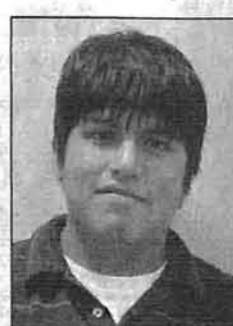
Sean Hanebery
Senior, Int'l Business



Gloria Ayuba
Senior, Pre-med



Justi Montague
Sophomore, English/Ed.



Ramiro Gamarra
Sophomore, Engineering

What do you think? Send your own response to thecurrent@umsl.edu. The person who submits the best response each week wins a free T-shirt.

"I want to get paid to be fabulous, because it won't take much work."

"Independent consultant. Because I love to travel."

"Neurosurgeon. It's the most interesting part of surgery."

"Make dentures because I hate people with bad teeth."

"Musician, because I love guitar."

SCIENCE COLUMN

Scientific breakthrough may change stem cell debate, will opponents still object?

If stem cells could be harvested without destroying embryos, would opponents still object?

Last week, it looked like there might be such a scientific breakthrough, one that might break the stem cell debate impasse. In a report published last month in the science journal *Nature*, a group of scientists announced the discovery of one possible technique to harvest stem cells without destroying the embryo.

Will this advance be sufficient to dampen the vocal opposition?

Unfortunately, the research seems more preliminary than many assumed at first.

Scientists and journalists alike, eager to resolve the dilemma, failed to note that the researchers were saying that previous studies in mice indicated that it was possible.

Hopefully, a full test of the potential technique, producing both useable stem cells and preserving embryos, should be the next study. However, stem cell opponents have had their own misunderstanding, trying to imply an unethical intention to mislead the public about the results. A quote below shows otherwise.

Here is what they said, "The derivation of human embryonic stem (hES) cells currently requires the destruction of ex utero embryos. A previous study in mice indicates that it might be possible to generate embryonic stem (ES) cells using a single-cell biopsy similar to that used in preimplantation genetic diagnosis (PGD), which does not interfere with the embryo's developmental potential."

You can read a summary of the report in *Nature* on their Web site at: <http://www.nature.com/nature/journal/vaop/ncurrent/abs/nature05142.html> or in the library's copy of last month's issue. In short, the scientists found that they could use a procedure that is already used in fertility clinics, to check embryos for abnormalities prior to implantation. The technique extracts a single cell at a very early stage of development of the embryo, a much earlier stage of development than cells previously used for stem cell lines.

The fertility clinic procedure preserves the viability of the embryo, so it can be implanted.

The study focused on showing that the extracted single cells, called blastomeres at this point, could be grown and used to derive stem cells suitable for research without introducing genetic errors.

The new stem cell discovery was covered widely in the national press, if not much locally, at least until some questions were raised about what the researchers were actually saying.

There has been some confusion since the research was published in the brief article in the "Letters" section of *Nature*. As some read it, the researchers seemed to be saying that they actually had preserved the embryos from which they had extracted stem cells, when in fact they were only saying that other research indicated that it was possible.

While noting that previous studies indicated that it was possible and that fertility clinics similarly extract single cells without harm to their embryos, the researchers did not in fact do the



BY CATHERINE MARQUIS-HOMEYER
Science Columnist

second step of preserving the source embryos and verifying that the embryos were unharmed.

The researchers only demonstrated that the stem cells were unaffected. In fact, the study showed it was possible to solve the more difficult part of the problem.

The lack of a step that verified that the embryo was unharmed caused some in the press, and stem cell opponents, to entirely dismiss the study. However, the real drawback was that the success rate to produce useable stem cells with the technique was so low that single cells from many embryos might be needed to produce a useable stem cell line, if all embryos were left unharmed.

How is this technique different from the usual method for producing stem cell lines? Typically stem cells are extracted from embryos when it has reached the latter blastocyst stage of about 150 cells but the action destroys the embryo. In the procedure used by fertility clinics, a single cell is extracted at the two-day, eight-cell stage, when all the cells are called blastomeres. Fertility clinics use the single cell to test for DNA abnormalities.

The rest of the embryo continues to develop normally and is implanted, a method that fertility clinics have used successfully for about ten years. The only difference for the new procedure is what happens to the extracted cell. The single blastomere is grown overnight to produce a colony of cells and the resulting cells could be used for either the genetic testing or development of stem cell lines. There was no indication that the single cell could produce an entire embryo, as one stem cell opponent has implied.

However, while the technique removes the issue around harming embryos, it raises different questions about the usefulness of the particular stem cell lines in developing cures. There is concern that it may lead to limitations on the kinds of embryos that could be used as sources. Many stem cell researchers are interested in developing cell lines derived from people with certain diseases, as a way to study the disease, and using only stem cells from this technique might pose a limit to that research.

So, if stem cells can be harvested without destroying embryos, will opponents still object? Perhaps more to the point, will opponents even hear about the breakthrough?

If someone's source for science news is his or her church, there may be a problem.

The stem cell debate is a sad and strange story, pitting people in wheelchairs, children sick with diabetes and seniors with Parkinson's and their families against a minority whose conservative religious view of moral values place those people's rights on an even footing with cells in a lab dish.

For many other people, there are problems with this equivalency, including the fact that, unless implanted in a woman's womb, that ball of cell can never become a baby. Will people who get their science news at church even consider the concerns of ill people who want the research to move forward and who long for the cures it can bring?

COMING BACK, from page 4

I was numb as I handed over my Visa monthly bill and two other documents to this stranger. I told myself, "You are back in St. Louis, you can do that here. You are on The Hill, for chrissakes. Hand over the mail. Trust her. Besides, your Visa is maxed anyway and she won't get that far if she lifts any numbers."

It was my first re-introduction back to the community of St. Louis.

Two weeks later, I started Physics I in a room full of about 100 people almost half my age. Now, I realized I was one of those middle-age people, the kind who doesn't really ask questions of the professor.

Just today, I've come to believe I know the reason why most of the older, non-traditional students I used to observe often sat silently in class. And I think it's not because they knew all the answers, but perhaps that they were a little more self-conscious than their surrounding colleagues.

Believe me, I know the stares, or rather, the friendly, inquisitive glances that older, non-traditional students get from their peers: What is he/she doing here? No ring on the left hand - married or not? Gay? Who knows? Who cares? Did he/she bomb out in the professional world, only to have to return to school again?

At least that's what I tell myself they are asking. Perhaps they are paying more attention to the studies than my undisclosed musings.

I love being here.

It feels like the 15 years I have been out of St. Louis have made it a better city. Or perhaps I am more mature, and am willing to commit more this time around as I hit the books and as I drive the streets. A few kicks in life got me to the place I am now.

I remember listening to "Prairie Home Companion" a couple of months back, and it was broadcast from the Touhill. I was piecing together items of information from my hometown, even as I was 900 miles away from St. Louis. MetroLink had a busy and successful station at UM-St. Louis, Garrison Keillor was a presence at UM-St. Louis (at least for an afternoon), the school was calling me back on every occasion, and everyone was helpful. I

began to think that the school was giving back to the community. Now I know I was right.

Already, I have met a member of the Student Government Association and senior members of *The Current* newspaper. The faculty are generous with their time and office hours, and they are genuinely friendly in their lectures. I even got to spend \$500 on my student ID right after I got it - at no interest!

I guess Mr. Eliot was right when he said we have to leave and come back to know the place from whence we came. Too bad he couldn't come back to St. Louis and give it another shot in his second life. I came back to St. Louis early this August, and I am sure glad I did.

Turns out, that \$3 extension cord is sitting on my windowsill, gathering dust. But getting it was worth the trip.

Love to write?

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The Current is looking for staff writers. Send a résumé and cover letter to thecurrent@umsl.edu

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A&E

A&E ON CAMPUS

Truth and Consequence

Monday Noon Series will present "Truth and Consequence: The Documentary Process" from 12:15 p.m. to 1:15 p.m. Sept. 11 in Room 229 of the J.C. Penney Conference Center.

Documentary filmmaker Nonny de la Peña shows clips and discusses the impact of her films on issues involving civil liberties before 9/11, flawed science, child abuse, Los Angeles gang members, and the environment.

For more information, call 516-5699.



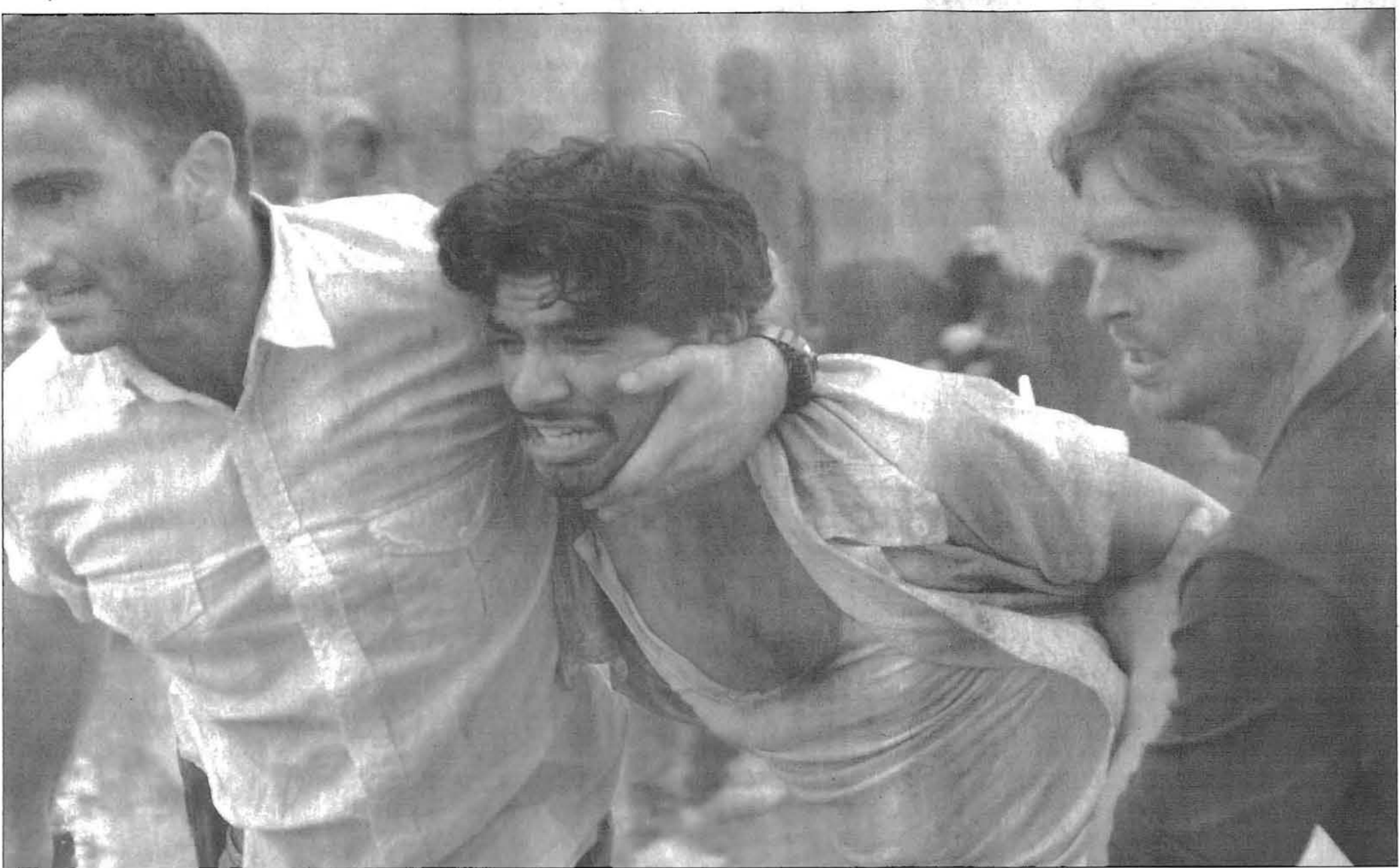
Mission IMPROVable Performance

The Chicago-based improv comedy group Mission IMPROVable will perform from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Sept. 12 in the Pilot House in the third floor of the Millennium Student Center. The event is free and open to the public.

TOP TUNES

DOWNLOADS

1. Sexy Back - Justin Timberlake featuring Timpbaland
2. London Bridge - Fergie
3. Chasing Cars - Snow Patrol
4. Crazy - Gnarls Barkley
5. Call Me When You're Sober - Evanescence
6. Far Away - Nickelback
7. Chain Hang Low - Jibbs
8. Buttons - The Pussycat Dolls featuring Big Snoop Dogg
9. How to Save a Life - The Fray
10. Show Stopper - Danity Kane



Daniel Caltagirone, Akin Gazi and Winton Nicholson star in 'Path to 9/11,' a miniseries airing on the fifth anniversary of the 9/11 attacks.

TV series dramatizes events leading to 9/11

Upcoming ABC special dramatizes commission's findings

BY CATE MARQUIS

A&E Editor

At the fifth anniversary of the 9/11 attacks, ABC television presents "Path to 9/11," an action-filled miniseries dramatization about the events leading up to the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks.

The miniseries is based on the report of the 9/11 Commission, a bipartisan panel formed to investigate the events leading up to the attacks. The commission went back to the 1993 attack on the World Trade Center, and created a timeline of events and recommendations for preventing future attacks.

"Path to 9/11" airs on two consecutive nights, Sunday, Sept. 10 and Monday, Sept. 11, at 7 p.m. on local ABC affiliate KDNL TV (Channel 30).

The miniseries features a large cast and its story takes us from the inner offices of the FBI, CIA and White House to the rugged landscapes of Afghanistan, dusty towns in Pakistan and cities in Yemen. Harvey Keitel stars as FBI counterterrorism agent John O'Neil, who headed the investigation of the 1993 attacks and led the effort to unravel the trail back to Al Qaeda and Osama bin Laden.

O'Neil plays the central role in this miniseries, a pivotal figure that unites the various threads of the story. Besides O'Neil, the dramatization features many names that have become familiar to us since that tragic day.



Harvey Keitel plays as FBI counterterrorism agent John O'Neil, who was in charge of investigating the 1993 World Trade Center attacks. Keitel stars in ABC's miniseries 'Path to 9/11' Sunday, Sept. 10 and Monday, Sept. 11 at 7 p.m. on Channcel 30.

Counterterrorism czar Richard Clarke (Stephen Root), Clinton's Secretary of State Madeleine Albright (Shirley Douglas), Bush's then National Security Advisor Condoleezza Rice (Penny Johnson Jerald) and CIA Director George Tenet (Dan Lauria) are among the people portrayed in this miniseries.

People outside the government play essential roles as well. Barclay Hope plays John Miller, a TV journalist who interviewed bin Laden and provided the FBI with helpful information about him. Mido Hamada is Northern Alliance leader and bin Laden adversary Ahmed Shah Massoud and Donnie Wahlberg plays a CIA agent known as Kirk who works with Massoud to track down bin Laden. The story also follows the terrorists and their accomplices, such as 1993 World Trade Center bomber Ramzi Yousef (Nabil Elouahabi).

The best-selling 9/11 Commission Report has some controversy. Some hail it as an essential look at what went wrong and what we need to change to prevent another terrorist attack while others decry it for criticizing the present administration during the "war on terror."

Viewers that share the latter political

attacks. The focus of the miniseries is very much on the people involved, particularly O'Neil.

The six-hour miniseries starts with the day of the attack, and then flashes back to the first 1993 attack on the World Trade Center and the investigation it sparked.

The narrative then proceeds on two tracks, ticking off the timeline of events that pointed to the gathering storm of the terrorism and Al-Qaeda threat but returning periodically to the day of 9/11, following the progress of the hijackers, the response on the ground and the confusion and missteps of that awful day.

At times, the narrative follows the future hijackers and their fellow radicals, particularly Mohammad Atta.

At other times, it focuses on the efforts of the FBI, immigration and airport officials, at airports and on the Canadian border, struggling with suspicious individuals or some men with odd ideas about taking flying lessons.

The upper levels of government in both administrations are too focused on geopolitics, politics, media reaction or grand ideological plans for reordering the world to bother with the flashing red lights the folks in the field were screaming about.

The disconnect between the people on the ground doing the right thing, whether FBI or immigration agents, airport screeners and all the other public servants who noticed something was wrong, and the upper levels of government's unresponsiveness — over and over again — reminds us of what the 9/11 Commission uncovered.

Focusing on the individuals works to dramatize and humanize the story. Craggy, scowling Keitel does a fine job as the relentless bulldog of an FBI agent.

See **PATH TO 9/11**, page 12

CD REVIEW

Is Paris burning? Not with singing talent, as new Paris Hilton CD shows

BY PAUL HACKBARTH

Design Editor

Paris Hilton has a new video available on the Internet, but this one doesn't include ex-boyfriend Rick Solomon. What's even more surprising is that it's a music video.

With her self-titled album, "Paris" which debuted last week, Hilton hopes to add recording artist to her résumé, after trying her hand at everything else.

She wrote a book about the dos and don'ts of being an heiress. She launched her own line of handbags, watches and perfume. She's a model. She joined the craze of reality shows

in "The Simple Life" and has also acted in cameo roles for a handful of movies.

She even opened up Club Paris in Orlando. (No future plans exist for Paris's nightclub to open in St. Louis.) Her attempt to add singer to that list is second-rate at best.

When mainstream music picked up her first single, the reggae melody "Stars Are Blind," people were shocked; shocked that she was attempting to join the music scene and shocked that she was actually good. With the catchy, simplistic lyrics of "Stars Are Blind" one cannot help but hum along.

However, "Stars Are Blind" can be misleading, not matching the performance of the other titles of "Paris" the album.

Her album covers a wide range of genres from reggae to hip-hop to pop, which may be part of the trouble of the CD. Choosing one genre (I recommend more songs like "Stars Are Blind") would be best when Paris records her second album. Oh yes, she is already in the works to release another CD, with a much anticipated song titled



Paris Hilton
"Paris"
★☆☆☆☆

"Daddy's Little Girl."

For the sake of keeping what few listeners Paris gains with her first album, I hope singing lessons are in the near future for the hotel heiress.

For most of the album, her vocals are weak, leaving listeners wondering if she recorded songs whispering into a fan.

That sound is most evident in the tracks, "Heartbeat," a close rip-off of Cyndi Lauper's "Time After Time" and "Jealousy," a good-old bashing of Hilton's ex-best friend Nicole Richie.

"Paris" also proves that artists can in fact purchase talent with producers like Scott Storch on the soundboard providing her synthesized voice and guest stars Fat Joe and Jadakiss, who

help save the hip-hop track "Fightin' Over Me" from Hilton's staccato voice with lyrics "Every time I step out the house they want to fi-i-ight over me / It's because I'm hot to death and I'm so so so sexy."

Despite her attempts to sound soft and sexy (she whispers her famous line "That's hot!" for the first line on the album), her downfall is her lack of energy that she puts into her singing.

She can sing well, as she proves in the funny song "Screwed," reminiscent of Gwen Stefani or Christina Aguilera.

Paris should remember that even though she is a blonde, like Stefani and Aguilera, making a CD like them may not produce the same results.

CD REVIEW

New Waking Ashland album leaves listeners feeling dreary and tired

By MICHAEL BRANCH
Music Critic

If ever there was a shining example of the phrase, "Don't judge a book by its cover," it would be the San Diego-based group Waking Ashland's latest offering, "Telescopes."

The album's cover art features a beautifully somber night scene made out of construction paper, complete with a full moon and stars overlooking a forest with a single bear on the left side.

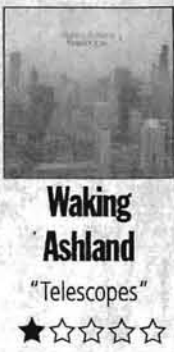
It is the kind of eye-attracting cover you would expect to see on a Caldecott-winning kids' book that

might be titled "Why Do the Stars Shine?"

Upon first listen, it becomes clear that the songs within are nowhere near as alluring or enjoyable as the cover art of the album.

The first track on the album sets the pace for the rest of the dreary album with a dull number called "Julian."

With such cliché-ridden sentiments as "Two miles in between you and me/ but there might as well be an ocean" and "Cause I'm flying kites into the wind/ and watching my life fall to pieces" in the first verse alone, it is easy to see the target audience. It is the same trite "to have loved and lost" story that has been used time and time



again to get youngsters everywhere cooing, "This song so sounds like it's about me!" Vocalist Jonathan Jones might as well be screaming, "C'mon

everybody, you can relate to this" after every verse.

But including a scream would be showing too much passion for Jones, who sounds bored as he sings the vocals of each song. To his credit, one could see how it would be hard to sound enthused when relaying the same bad lyrical poetry over and over again ad nauseam.

It is obvious that every musician on the album is skillful, as each member contributes a fair share of instrumental talent. The problem is, with the exception of one song out of the seven, they fail to write anything innovative or catchy enough to tug at the ear.

Jones displays some beautiful

piano-playing prowess in songs such as "Flowers On a Wall" and the title track. The latter begins with a touching melodic solo piano piece before being joined by drums and sustained guitar chords with light whammy-bar action, making for a delightfully structured song.

That is, until the chorus comes in, rendering the song barely recognizable from any new pop sensation smothering radio waves today.

The influence of bands like Coldplay can be heard on "Open Doors" but unfortunately, Waking Ashland has not quite mastered the art of making the catchy-as-hell radio-ready pop rockers of their precedes-

sors.

Waking Ashland does, however, come through in the exquisite art of the generic chord progression; churning out one song after another that will give the listener the odd *deja vu* sensation of having heard the song three million times before.

"Telescopes" is the perfect album for those who like their music uninspired and shallow. With its title track, Waking Ashland hints at being a musical force to be reckoned with.

Until they can write more songs up to that standard, however, they will find themselves being yesterday's news as the next wave of trendy pop music takes them under.

MOVIE REVIEW

The golden age of magic is elegantly captured in 'The Illusionist'

By CATE MARQUIS
AGE Editor

Harry Houdini is a name we all recognize. However, he was only one of many magicians that transfixed the world in the late 19th and early 20th century, a Golden Age of stage magic.

"The Illusionist" tries to recapture the feel of the magic-obsessed era and gives us a sense of how magicians held audiences spellbound with surreal illusions, often with a hint of spiritualism.

It succeeds in this ambition but "The Illusionist" is not really a movie about magic. It is a well-made mystery set in the early 20th century that focuses on a romantic triangle between a magician, a beautiful countess and the heir to the throne of Austria. Magic is the backdrop for this intrigue but has a strong presence in the film.

"The Illusionist" deserves credit for daring to be an original in a summer sea of sequels, remakes, and near-plotless special effects vehicles.

Edward Norton plays the elegant, mysterious magician Eisenheim the Illusionist. When the wildly popular illusionist returns to perform in his native Austria, a chance encounter reunites him with his secret childhood sweetheart Sophie von Teschen (Jessica Biel).

However, the noble-born Sophie is now engaged to Crown Prince Leopold (Rufus Sewell), a proud, hard man who is skeptical about Eisenheim's eerie magical illusions. The prince would like to unmask Eisenheim and his illusions, but Leopold grows more suspicious of the magician when he discovers his con-

nection with Sophie.

Leopold instructs his clever and trusted right-hand man, Vienna's Chief Inspector Uhl (Paul Giamatti), to keep a close eye on the magician.

While the prince is eager to expose the magician as a fraud, Uhl, himself an amateur magician, is just as eager to uncover Eisenheim's secrets. The tense romantic triangle becomes a mystery quartet with the ever-present, intelligent Uhl engaged in a battle of wits with Eisenheim.

"The Illusionist" succeeds best when it is recreating the stage illusions of the day, because the film's director Neil Burger chose to use the techniques of the time period, with little or no CGI effects. The effort to recreate the magic of this Golden Age is why the film is generating so much interest among magicians and fans of magic.

With a haunting score by Philip Glass, a stellar performance by Norton and a strong supporting cast, "The Illusionist" does all the presentation right, setting just the right stage for movie magic to unfold. Burger does a good job of creating a fog-drenched, period atmosphere that is just right for mystery and magic.

However, the film is not without its problems. Oddly, although the story is set in Vienna, all the actors sport British accents instead of Austrian or their own natural ones, creating a constant distraction.

The emotional chemistry between Biel and Norton is far stronger in their on-stage encounters than in their off-stage romantic scenes.

Overall, the film and Norton's performance are much more mesmerizing when the magician is on stage. It is much more effective in recreating the spellbinding sense of stage magic, in an era equally obsessed with magical illusions and spiritualists, than it is in creating romantic heat.

"The Illusionist" has been called an old-fashioned film, which might be part of its appeal. The lush period costumes, the half-lit atmospheric scenes, beautiful Old World architecture and many period details make the film a visual delight.



Edward Norton plays magician Eisenheim the Illusionist, who on a trip to Austria reconnects with his secret childhood sweetheart Sophie von Teschen played by Jessica Biel.

Talented actors Norton, Giamatti and Sewell are eminently watchable and Biel looks gorgeous as Sophie.

Norton delivers a fascinating performance and his role really affords him a chance to shine. Besides his stage scenes, his confrontations with the gifted Giamatti are a highlight of the film.

Sewell is effectively creepy as the

prince but the character is so unremittingly evil that he almost seems unreal.

Biel's role is less developed but her performance is far paler compared to her costars, and there is that too-faint romantic chemistry with Norton.

Even if the setting is beautiful, the script is standard in many ways. The story is involving and entertaining but

not groundbreaking or irresistible.

Some people will be taken in and entertained by the plot's trickery and twists but others will not be fooled by misdirection and, like myself, will see the end coming. For me, the real appeal of this film was in the scenes on stage, where Norton is glorious as the enigmatic Eisenheim.

"The Illusionist" is a good film for

magic fans and for people with a taste for historical mystery and romance. It is less so for those who want meaty intellectual challenge in their mystery or a really romantic chick flick.

Overall, "The Illusionist" is worth the trip to the theater but especially if you have a taste for a well-done period film and, of course, magic.

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Morning Worship	11:30am

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SPORTS

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK



Christy Trame
Christy Trame, sophomore, middle hitter for volleyball, was named to the All-Tournament team last week after the three-game series at the Quincy Nike/McDonald's Tournament.

Trame had 35 kills over the three matches, a team best of 18 total blocks and a .124 hitting percentage.

In Friday's game against Southwest Baptist, Trame had 10 kills and three blocks in the win. Against Missouri Southern, Trame had 15 kills and six blocks. She had 10 kills and nine blocks during the next game, against Northwood.

This is Trame's first year at UM-St. Louis, after playing for one season at Indiana State.

UPCOMING GAMES

Women's Soccer

Sept. 6
vs. SIUE
7:00 p.m.

Men's Soccer

Sept. 10
vs. Truman State
Noon

Volleyball

Sept. 8
vs. Wisconsin-Parkside
(at McCluer South)
7 p.m.

Sept. 9
vs. Lewis
(at McCluer South)
5 p.m.

Women's Tennis

Sept. 6
vs. Webster U.
3 p.m.

Men's Tennis

Sept. 7
vs. Maryville
3:30 p.m.

Students showing valid UMSL IDs are admitted free to all campus athletic events



Matt Johnson • Photo Editor

Colin Huber, senior, scores the first goal Friday night against Quincy. With goals by Huber and Jared Smith, the UM-St. Louis Rivermen shutout the Quincy Hawks 2-0 during the opening home game of the season.

SCORE!

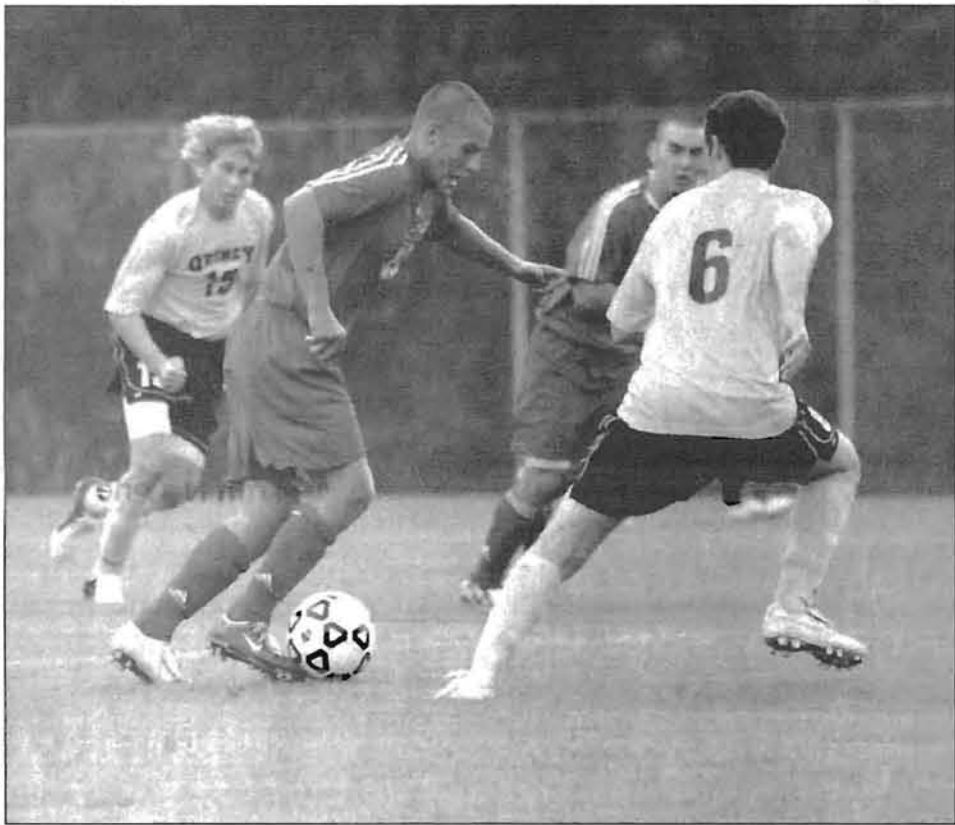
■ Second-half goals lead to win against Quincy in homeopener

BY LAGUAN FUSE

Sports Editor

The Current
online.com

Visit www.thecurrentonline.com for a photo gallery of the homeopening games of the UM-St. Louis soccer teams.



Matt Johnson • Photo Editor

Danny Muesenfechter, freshman, advances the ball during the game Friday night against the Quincy University Hawks.

The UM-St. Louis men's soccer team's winning streak continued as the defeated the Quincy Hawks on Friday in the first conference match of the year.

The team shut out the Hawks during the homeopener, winning 2-0.

The Rivermen defense kept the Hawks offense in check, allowing only one shot on goal.

Rivermen goalkeeper Zach Hoette, who played all 90 minutes, made the save, picking up the shutout, his second of the season.

The UM-St. Louis offense started out slow, with only one shot during the first half. But by the second half, the offense stepped it up, with a total of seven shots.

Five minutes into the second half, Rivermen sophomore forward Colin Huber scored his first goal of the season and the Rivermen's first goal at home unassisted.

"I was excited I could do it for the team," said Huber. "First half we did the gameplan and I'm glad I could finally execute. And it's good to beat a team that we've never beaten before," he said.

The last time the Rivermen played Quincy, in October 2005, the team lost 1-0.

Jared Smith, sophomore forward for the Rivermen, scored his fourth goal of the year unassisted 10 minutes later to put UM-St. Louis up 2-0.

"Thanks to my team. They are really giving me the

ball up top," said Smith.

"They're doing a good job from the midfield, finding my feet and giving me a chance to shoot."

Men's soccer head coach Dan King had high praise for Smith, who has been a team leader this year.

"Jared's a leader. He works hard and he's a go-to guy," King said. "He's a very clutch player."

Smith scored two goals in the Rivermen's Aug. 25 game against Lyon College and he scored a penalty-kick goal against Harding College two days later.

With his goal against Quincy on Friday, Smith has already matched his total of four goals last season. And the season has just started, with 13 games left in the season.

Quincy had three players, Mike DiSalvo (Whitfield H.S., Florissant, Mo.) Steve Miller (DeSmet H.S., St. Louis, Mo.) and Nenad Savic (Serbia, Belgrade) who received yellow cards during the game.

The Rivermen's defense was very effective in stopping the Hawks. Quincy had nine shots during the game but only one shot on the goal.

The Rivermen will next play at home against Truman State on Sept. 10 at noon.

Quincy shuts down Riverwomen in first home game

But team rebounds on Sunday, defeating Saginaw Valley State

BY LAGUAN FUSE

Sports Editor

The University of Missouri-St. Louis women's soccer team improved their record to 2-2 after splitting two games in the weekend home opener. The Riverwomen lost 2-0 to the Quincy Hawks on Sept. 1 in the first Great Lakes Valley Conference match of the season. The Riverwomen defeated the Saginaw Valley State Cardinals 2-0 on September 3.

Kim Koenig (Quincy Notre Dame H.S., Quincy Ill.) scored the first goal of the game for the Hawks in the 24th minute of the game with the assist going to Jenna Boyko (St. Dominic H.S., St. Charles, Mo.) and Rachel Poepsel (St. Dominic H.S., Wentzville, Mo.).

The Riverwomen kept the game 1-0 until the very last minute of the game when Boyko got her second assist of the game as Michelle Peabody (Ursuline Academy, Ste. Genevieve, Mo.) sealed the game for Quincy.

Quincy was able to outshoot UM-St. Louis during the game. Quincy had more shots during the first half than UM-St. Louis had all game. Quincy had eight shots during the first half compared to UM-St. Louis's three. During the second half, Quincy had seven shots and UM-St. Louis had four.

UM-St. Louis used both Mary Behrmann (Althoff Catholic, Swansea, Ill.) and Courtney Carmody (Lafayette,



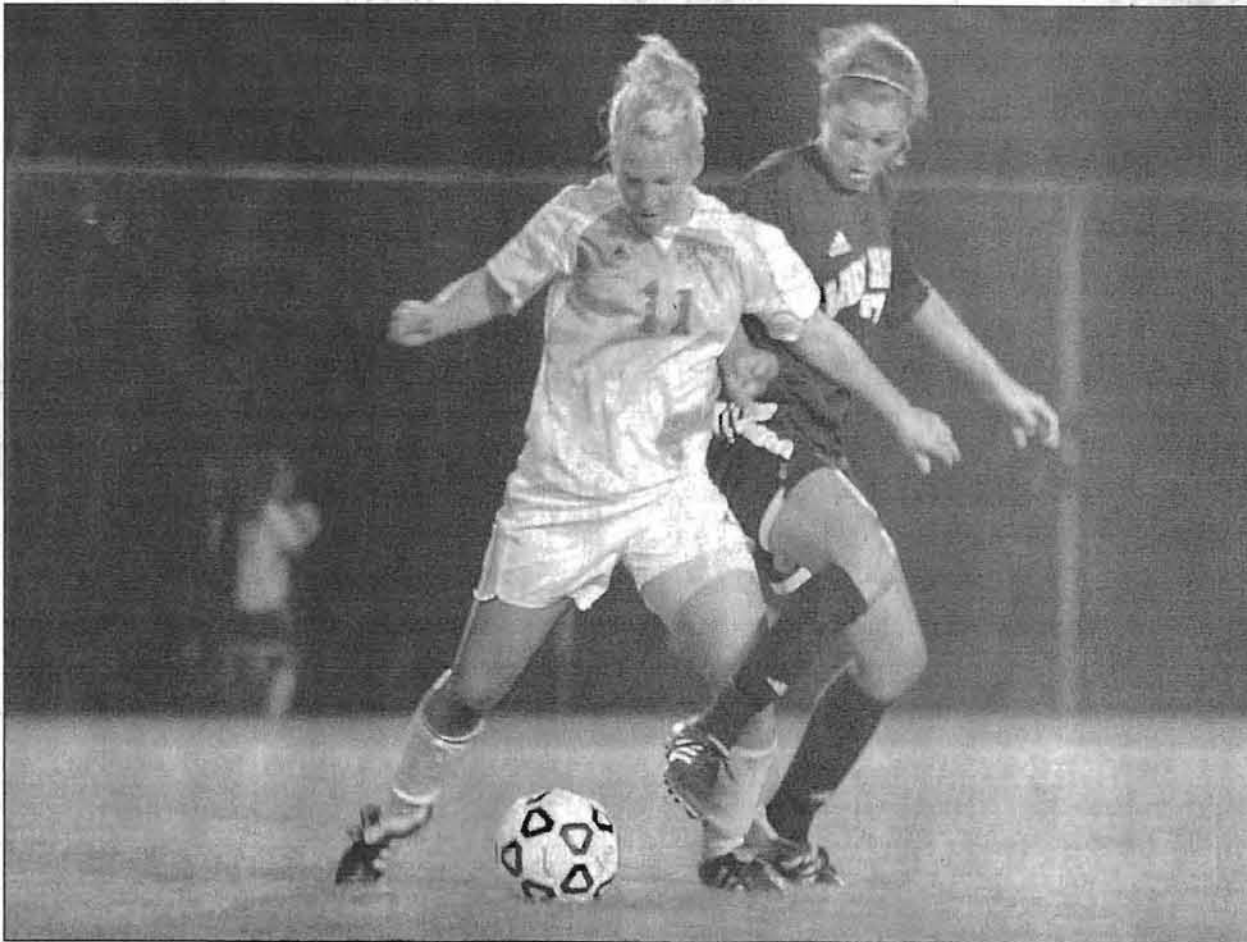
Rachel Lee

Sophomore defender scored both goals in Sunday's game against Saginaw Valley State, leading to a shutout victory.

St. Louis, Mo.) at goalkeeper during the game. Behrmann and Carmody both played 45 minutes and both had three saves and allowed one goal.

Sunday redemption

On Sunday, the Riverwomen reclaimed the field against Saginaw Valley State.



Matt Johnson • Photo Editor

Krisie Muesenfechter, sophomore midfielder/defender for the Riverwomen, evades a Quincy player during UM-St. Louis' homeopener on Friday night. The Quincy Lady Hawks shut out the Riverwomen 2-0.

Rachel Lee led the UM-St. Louis to a 2-0 victory against the Saginaw Valley State University Cardinals on September 3.

Lee had four shots during the game and she was able to get two of the shots past Cardinals' goalkeeper Stacy LaLond.

Lee scored the first goal in the 10th

minute of the game with the assist going to Danielle Dahm and Tara Reitz.

Lee scored her second goal of the game unassisted in the 22nd minute of the game.

Behrmann and Carmody split playing time again in the game. Behrmann had two saves during the game and

Carmody had three.

With Sunday's win, the Riverwomen improve to 2-2 on the season.

The team will be home again on Wednesday night when they host nationally-ranked Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville at 7 p.m. at the Don Dallas Soccer Stadium, next to the Mark Twain Building.

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MOHELA, from page 1

Statements from both the Governor's office and the University of Missouri system stated that the plan will not affect the way MOHELA runs or students' access to low interest loans.

"It is our understanding students will not be negatively affected by the plan," said Joe Moore, director of Media Relations for the UM system.

"I believe what they sell they will be able to restore within a few years," Georges said.

The plan so far is vague on the specifics of where the money will go since only \$30 million is already committed. This has lead many people to voice their concerns about the plan.

The UM-St. Louis campus is earmarked to receive \$27.5 million for an IT incubator and a science center. Across the UM system, the flood of money will be a boon.

"Beginning five years ago we have suffered a very serious drought of money for capital appropria-

tions," Moore said. "New and renovated teaching and research buildings are absolutely vital to our ability to provide best education possible for Missouri students."

The UM system has been in close cooperation with the Governor over the plan.

MOHELA was created in 1981 by the General Assembly to provide students with low interest loans subsidized by tax-free bonds. Over the years MOHELA has built up \$5.2 billion dollars in loans.

MSC SECURITY, from page 1



Valerie Breshears • Staff Photographer

Ken Douglas, of South County, locks the doors of the Millennium Student Center Friday evening before the three-day weekend. Douglas has been locking up the MSC for two and a half years.

He said he heard of an incident where two men were found in a women's bathroom on the third floor of the MSC after close. "For them to be found in the women's bathroom is definitely a concern," he added.

Roby said he believes the incident happened eight or nine months ago and he has not heard of any other people being found in the restrooms "at this point."

Because of the incident, all of

the restroom doors in the MSC except two are locked at closing time.

Those restrooms remain open for use by students in groups or organizations who have swipe card access to the building at night.

He advised students with proper access to the building after hours to be conscious of the doors they go in and out of and to make sure the doors close securely.

"A lot of these mechanized doors will close but not latch. So you have to kind of pull them closed and make sure that they latch," he said.

There are five night managers, and Roby said at least two are usually on duty at a time.

"As night managers we look at

the student center as our house; you know in this day and age you don't leave your house without locking it and so act accordingly," he said.

In addition to the night managers, he said Campus Police perform sweeps over the building at night.

"I believe they try and make at least two walkabouts throughout the entire building every night," he said.

He said if students with access at night see somebody they do not recognize, they should call campus police. "Let [the police] determine whether they should be in here or they should not be," he said.

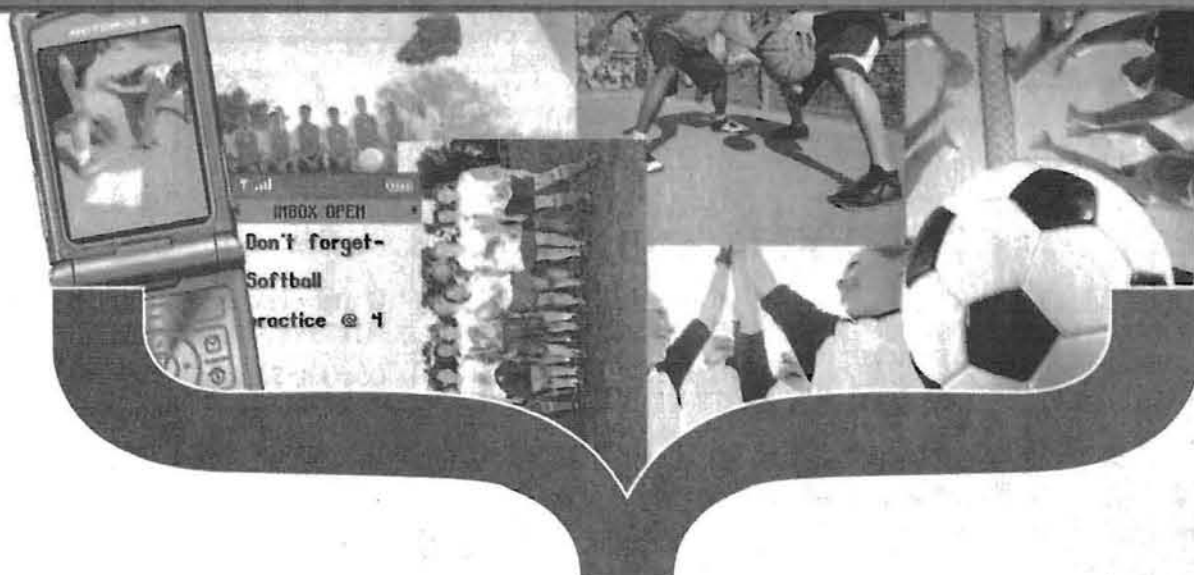
"If we're the first line of defense for the building, [the police are] the second," he said.

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CAMPUS INTRAMURAL UPDATE



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Tennis

Date: 9/16
Time: 9a-1p
Place: MT Tennis Courts
Sign up: 9/7
Division: M & W

Volleyball

Date: 9/11-10/11
Time: Mon & Wed 7p-10p
Place: MT Gym
Sign up: 9/7
Division: CoEd

Flag Football

Date: 9/12-11/7
Time: Tues 1p-5p
Place: MT Rec Field
Sign up: 9/7
Division: M & W

Bowling

Date: 9/12-11/16
Time: Thur 3:30p-5p
Place: North Oaks
Sign up: 9/7
Division: Doubles

Softball BBQ

Date: 9/16
Time: Sat 12p-5p
Place: Softball Field
Sign up: 9/7
Division: CoEd

Golf Scramble

Date: 9/18
Time: Mon 10:30a
Place: Normandie G.C.
Sign up: 9/7
Division: Open

Soccer

Date: 9/25-11/13
Time: Mon 1:30p-5p
Place: MT Rec Field
Sign up: 9/20
Division: M & W

Punt Pass Kick

Date: 9/26
Time: Tues 1p-4p
Place: MT Rec Field
Sign up: Drop in
Division: M & W

Ultimate Frisbee

Date: 9/20-10/18
Time: Wed 1p-4p
Place: MT Rec Field
Sign up: 9/14
Division: M & W

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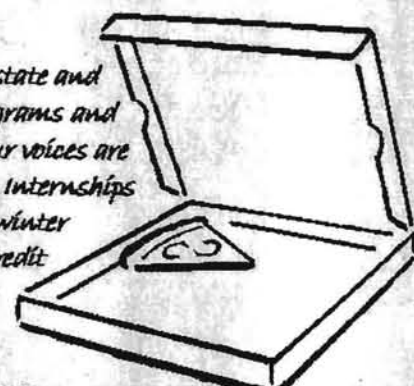


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To find out more, stop by our office at
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NUTN BUT THE FUNK

"Oz Expresses His Views"

Alright class, now that we went through the syllabus, I'd like to tell you about myself

Um, Ozzie, do you have a question?

Lucky Charms was the first cereal to use marshmallows


I, uh...I don't get why...

Well, I figure that if we're gonna sit here and talk about useless trivia for the next hour, at least it can be something interesting

Do you ever get the feeling you're gonna have a baaaad semester?

Sure was a lot of shouting coming from that class down the hall today...

Snapshots at jasonlove.com



Bob had the misfortune of being haunted by the Three Stooges.



MAXIMO PREDICTS

Horoscopes for Sept. 5 - Sept. 10

Aries
March 21-April 19

Drama in your life has you feeling pretty stupid this week, not a surprise considering how stupid you truly are.

Taurus
April 20-May 20

Don't give up on calling that person you met the other night at that dance club. Keep calling them and leaving voicemails again and again. Eventually you will hear back from them. Well, you'll hear back from their lawyer after you're issued a restraining order.

Gemini
May 21-June 21

I'll be frank, I know you think you have super powers of telekinesis, but the fact is that sink you used in the MSC earlier was sensor-activated. It was not your desire for it to function that made it work.

Cancer
June 22-July 22

My powers tell me you're re-wearing yesterday's undies. My bad, that wasn't my powers, it was just my nose.

Leo
July 23-Aug. 22

This is Leo's week to let loose with a mighty roar. Unfortunately for you, it will be five minutes after you get to the class that your crush is in with you. A few words of advice, go easy on the beans at La Cantina Loca this week.

Virgo
Aug. 23-Sept. 22

I suggest you start skipping the elevators and escalators on campus because your humps, your humps have lots of lumps.

Libra
Sept. 23-Oct. 22

Speaking of elevators, there are speaking elevators in Oak Hall. Even if you haven't checked them out yet, share a moment to laugh with me about how it says, "going down." Don't try to pretend your mind isn't in the gutter with mine.

Scorpio
Oct. 23 - Nov. 21

It's okay, you're not crazy. The voices you keep hearing while you're trying to sleep aren't in your head. Maybe consider trying to pay attention in class during your professor's lectures instead of having your little naptime.

Sagittarius
Nov. 22 - Dec. 21

I don't think that was meat in that burger you had in The Nosh. I'm just kidding, it was. I just spit in it before you ate it, that's why it tasted funny.

Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 19

Watch your step when dealing with touchy situations this week. Also, watch your step when walking to your classes; you might just avoid another goose poop incident.

Aquarius
Jan. 20 - Feb. 18

I'm serious about what I said last week. Lay off my mom, man!

Pisces
Feb. 19 - March 20

This just in, there's going to be a sushi bar in The Nosh this year.

DISCLAIMER:
Would you believe me if I told you I owned a flying unicorn? No? Good. Don't believe Maximo Predicts either.

SCONEBOROUGH

by E. Gearhart

I NEED TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT MY IMAGE.

OH COME ON. IT IS NOT.

YES IT IS!

OH, REALLY?

IN THAT CASE, I MAY HAVE TO TRY IT...


...SOME OTHER LESBIAN.

...ON, OH...

WHY?

NICKY, YOU'RE HOT. YOU COULD TURN LESBIANS STRAIGHT IF YOU WANTED.

IT'S BORING.



★Me! Why didn't we think of that?!

THEATRES EVERYWHERE

AIRLINE TERROR PLOT FOILED

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King Crossword

ACROSS

1 Former Surgeon General C. Everett -

5 Insult, slangily

8 Information

12 Partially formed

14 Portent

15 Figure of speech

16 Rooster

17 "My Gal -"

18 Oriental entertainer

20 Wooden rod

23 Narrate

24 "Zounds!"

25 Alpine cottages

28 Make a mistake

29 Salty solution

30 Discoverer's cry

32 Competitor

34 Feed the hogs

35 Cabbie

36 Take the wheel

37 Got smaller

40 Pond carp

41 LummoX

42 Gilbert & Sullivan's ship

47 Oil-cartel acronym

48 Covers partially

49 Desire

50 Golf prop

10 Georgia or Cal

11 "Puppy Love" singer

13 Milky gemstone

19 Model

20 Cee follower

21 Monster

22 Caution

23 Opine

25 Eccentric one

26 Story

27 Put your foot in it

29 Cereal choice

31 Half a yr. before

33 Hut's roof material

34 Suffocate

36 Fly like the eagles

37 Plodding

38 Kachina worshipper

39 Regrets

40 Footballer's sore spot

43 "Got a Secret"

44 Acom, in the future

45 Deli bread

46 Curvy letter

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

		2		7		8	6	
3			8	2				1
	5	7			1		4	
4		3		5				9
	7		6				8	3
	1		4		3	2		
		6	5			1	3	
9				4	6			8
5	4				2	7		

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging

★★★ HOO BOY!

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Find the answers to this week's crossword puzzle and Sudoku at

The Current

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